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Foreign

CROPS AND MARKETS

FOR RELEASE MONDAY, APRIL 29, 1957

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FOREIGN CROPS AND MARKETS

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TURKISH TOBACCO EXPORTS DOWN
2.8 MILLION POUNDS

Exports of Turkish unmanufactured tobacco in 1956 showed a further decline to 129.5 million pounds -- 2.8 million less than in 1955 and 28.6 million below the 1953 record high of 158.1 million. The drop was due mainly to reduced shipments to the United Kingdom, West Germany, Italy, Belgium, Yugoslavia, Spain, Poland, and Hungary. Shipments to the United States were 9.4 million pounds larger than in 1955 but 17.7 million below the 1954 level of 64.9 million. Combined exports to the Soviet Union and Eastern European countries increased both in volume and as a percentage of the total. Total shipments to the "bloc" area during the past 3 years amounted to 24.8, 33.8, and 34.6 million pounds, respectively. Other countries stepping up their takings of Turkish leaf include Switzerland, Austria, Sweden, Finland, France, Japan, and Egypt.

TOBACCO, UNMANUFACTURED: Turkey, exports by country of
destination, 1954-56

Country of destination	1954	1955	1956 ¹ / ₁
	1,000	1,000	1,000
	<u>pounds</u>	<u>pounds</u>	<u>pounds</u>
United States.....	64,944	37,836	47,174
Western Germany.....	14,074	17,342	14,290
Eastern Germany.....	12,285	11,324	13,990
Poland.....	4,774	13,720	8,633
Hungary.....	2,425	3,203	2,143
Czechoslovakia.....	4,149	5,555	9,184
Soviet Union.....	1,139	---	617
United Kingdom.....	10,766	7,534	4,284
Italy.....	1,552	7,415	5,066
France.....	4,969	4,661	5,093
Austria.....	2,107	2,972	3,408
Belgium.....	3,543	2,919	1,642
Switzerland.....	3,003	2,657	3,239
Sweden.....	1,788	878	1,076
Finland.....	2,443	1,804	3,126
Others.....	8,061	11,478	6,581
Total.....	142,022	132,298	129,546

¹/₁ Preliminary

Sales of 1955 Aegean manipulated tobacco at Izmir through March 5, 1957, totaled 116.1 million pounds. United States firms reportedly purchased 65.1 million pounds, compared with total exports of 47.2 million to this country in 1956. France's purchases totaled 7.4 million pounds in contrast to total exports of 5.1 million for 1956.

At the 1957 Annual Congress of the Aegean Tobacco Association it was reported that 25 kurus (4 U.S. cents per pound) per kilogram subsidy paid to growers for the past 2 years was insufficient to encourage production of better quality tobacco. Current information in regard to the status of this subsidy is not available.

BRAZIL'S LEAF TOBACCO EXPORTS UP 11 PERCENT

Brazil's exports of leaf tobacco in 1956 totaled 67.0 million pounds, 6.5 million pounds above the 1955 level of 60.5 million. Most of the increase occurred in larger shipments to West Germany, the Netherlands, Italy, Sweden, Austria, Algeria, Uruguay, and Tunisia. Leaf shipments to the French franc countries in Africa during recent years have increased substantially. Exports in 1956 to Spain, France, Switzerland, and Czechoslovakia were slightly below the 1955 level.

TOBACCO, LEAF: Brazil, exports by country of destination, 1954-56

Country of destination	1954	1955	1956 ^{1/}
	<u>pounds</u>	<u>pounds</u>	<u>pounds</u>
West Germany.....	16,023	9,318	13,702
Spain.....	10,523	9,117	8,525
France.....	3,121	4,664	3,036
Netherlands.....	6,383	9,370	13,688
Denmark.....	5,122	5,171	5,300
Italy.....	--	2,213	3,942
Sweden.....	946	180	560
Switzerland.....	4,426	4,381	3,300
Tunisia.....	602	750	1,160
Algeria.....	1,968	2,561	3,086
Uruguay.....	4,455	2,331	3,146
Others.....	8,303	10,405	7,557
Total.....	61,872	60,461	67,002

^{1/} Preliminary.

KOREAN OUTPUT OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS DOWN SLIGHTLY

Korean output of tobacco products in 1956, totaling 40.6 million pounds, was 2 percent below the 1955 level of 41.4 million. Cigarette output was about 2 percent larger than the 1955 level of 12.6 billion pieces while the production of cut tobacco declined from 13.6 million pounds in 1955 to 12.3 million in 1956. Cigarette production in 1956 accounted for 70 percent of total output in contrast to 41 percent in 1950.

FACTORY USINGS OF TOBACCO LOWER IN NORWAY DURING 1956

The estimated use of unmanufactured tobacco in Norwegian factories declined in 1956 to 10.0 million pounds, compared with 10.2 million pounds used in 1955. However, actual consumption probably did not decline to this extent because retailers had built up substantial stocks in the last months of 1955 prior to an increase in the tobacco excise tax.

Tobacco imports during 1956 were at the same level as 1955, 9.4 million pounds, of which 7.8 million were from the United States. Imports from the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland increased from .6 million pounds in 1955 to .8 million pounds in 1956.

The upward trend in prices of United States tobacco has caused concern among Norwegian manufacturers. There are strict ceiling prices on tobacco products in Norway, and it is difficult to pass on increased prices to consumers.

FRENCH CONSUMPTION OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS RISES IN 1956

Consumption of tobacco products in France during 1956 increased to 132.8 million pounds from 126.3 million in 1955. Cigarette sales increased from 83.9 to 90.0 million pounds, with imported cigarettes (mostly American) accounting for 3 percent of total sales. Cigar sales also increased substantially to 1.3 million pounds. Sales of cut tobacco and snuff increased slightly, but sales of chewing tobacco were smaller than those of last year.

JAPAN'S 1956 DAIRY TRADE

Japanese imports of nonfat dry milk totaled 44.8 million pounds in 1956, an increase of 36 percent over 1955. The United States supplied over 90 percent of the 1956 imports, 5.9 million pounds of which were for animal feed and most of the remainder for Japan's school lunch program.

Evaporated milk imports rose from 195,000 pounds in 1955 to 270,000 pounds in 1956, but condensed milk imports dropped from 639,000 pounds to only 12,000 pounds. Dried whole milk imports were 41,000 pounds in 1956, over 10 times the previous year's figure. Butter imports totaled 447,000 pounds in 1956, compared with 414,000 pounds imported in 1955. Cheese imports fell from 2.1 to 1.4 million pounds.

Japan continued to export small amounts of processed milk products to neighboring Asian countries in 1956. Shipments of the major item, nonfat dry milk, amounted to 392,000 pounds in 1956, compared to 154,000 pounds a year earlier.

Dairy products constitute only a small part of the Japanese diet, but per capita consumption of these items continues to increase. Preliminary information indicates that annual per capita consumption, in whole milk equivalent of dairy products reached 26 pounds in 1956. The comparable figure for 1955 was less than 25 pounds.

U.K. HOPES TO REDUCE MILK PRODUCTION

As a result of government-guaranteed milk prices for a stipulated quantity of milk, the United Kingdom's milk supply has been increasing more rapidly than liquid consumption. Officials fear that the milk supply during the current peak production period may exceed available manufacturing capacity.

Trade sources indicate that net income from milk production in the United Kingdom has been reduced by higher production costs and reduced prices resulting from the excess milk not covered by the guaranteed price. Considering these facts and the probability that milk production will become even less profitable in the future, the government has decided to increase the guaranteed price by .3 cent per gallon and to make a small increase in the quantity covered by the guaranteed price. Despite the increase in price, the government thinks that milk production will become less profitable, resulting in decreased production.

The retail price of milk sold in England, Wales, and Northern Ireland has been reduced by .6 cent per pint for the peak production period, April through June.

DRY MILK OUTPUT
UP IN PORTUGAL

Portugal's dry milk production totaled 3.3 million pounds in 1956, 54 percent over 1955. Unofficial estimates of the 1956 output by types place dry whole milk (28 percent fat) at 0.7 million pounds, meio-gordo (partially skimmed, 15 percent fat) at 2.0 million pounds, and nonfat dry milk at 0.4 million pounds.

Portugal's three drying plants, located in the northern part of the country, are operating 24 hours a day with a combined daily output of over 13,000 pounds of spray-process dry milk. The construction of 2 more plants in other areas of Portugal is being discussed, but no decisions have been announced.

Consumption of dry milk is keeping pace with production without noticeably affecting fluid milk consumption. Sales of the product in light foil containers are reportedly double those of brands retailed in cans.

Whole milk powder wholesales for 44.5 cents per pound and retails for 50.8 cents per pound. Comparable figures for meio-gordo are 41.3 and 42.5 cents per pound, and those for nonfat dry milk are 23.8 and 28.5 cents per pound.

YUGOSLAVIA'S 1956 MILK PRODUCTION
SLIGHTLY UNDER 1955 RECORD

Milk production in Yugoslavia in 1956 is estimated at about 3 percent less than the record set in 1955. Although there was a decline of nearly 5 percent in the number of cows milked, some increase in production per cow tended to maintain milk production. Several thousand head of high-producing Dutch and Danish cows were imported during 1956 in order to improve the quality and quantity of cow's milk production. The acquisition of these high-producing cows in partial replacement of low-producing cows, and some improvement in Yugoslav cows as a result of breeding programs and better feeding practices, probably accounted for the higher yield per cow.

Milk supplies in Belgrade and other major cities during the winter of 1956-57 were nearly adequate and prices did not rise as high as in the preceding year. These improvements are generally attributed to a better collection system and an expansion of the supply area.

Yugoslavia is not a large exporter of dairy products, exports being limited to small quantities of cacciocavallo and other cheeses. Plans call for increasing the production and improving the quality of export-type cheeses in order to enlarge foreign sales. Imports, generally small, are confined to powdered milk, butter, and hard cheese, mostly as relief shipments.

DROUGHT AREA OF PERU HIT BY FREEZES

Freezes on 4 successive nights in the last week of March further reduced poor crop prospects in the Puno area of Southern Peru. The area had already been subjected to a drought that began in 1955 and lasted until early 1957. As a result of the drought and the freezes, crops in the Puno area may be only 10 percent of normal this year. Conditions are especially serious in the Province of Grau, where there has been an acute shortage of food. The situation in the Department of Cusco is believed to be slightly better.

To cope with the problems brought on last year by the drought, the Peruvian Government initiated an economic development program in southern Peru in an effort to provide food and a means of livelihood for the population there. The United States participated in this program by contributing 40,000 metric tons of foodstuffs to the drought area under Title II of Public Law 480.

CHILE EXPANDS IRRIGATION CAPACITY

New dams on Lake Maule, in the Central Valley of Chile, will expand irrigation of 490,000 acres of land in the Talca and Linares Provinces. They will also permit operation of a new 100,000-kilowatt electric generator to provide additional power for the area.

Construction of the dams is part of a long-term public works program designed to intensify and expand Chile's agricultural production. When filled to capacity Lake Maule will increase by 70 percent the water available for the irrigation of 320,000 acres now with an inadequate water supply. It will also be possible to bring under irrigation an additional 170,000 acres of dry land. This extension of irrigation is expected to encourage increased agricultural production, including livestock products, in Talca and Linares Provinces. The two provinces produce the following percentages of important Chilean crops: rice, 60 percent; sunflower seed, 35; field beans, 20; wheat, 10; and other grains, 5. The area is also important for orchard crops.

The Ministry of Public Works is expected to complete a number of other irrigation projects in this part of the Central Valley. Projects planned or under construction include dams on the Melado River, the Ancoa River, and Lake Invernado, with a system of canals to connect them with hydroelectric stations and the acreage they serve. Completed, the projects (including Lake Maule) would add a total of over 200,000 acres to Chile's present irrigated area of an estimated 4 million acres.

REPUBLIC OF GERMANY
INCREASES RICE IMPORTS

The Federal Republic of Germany imported 117,140 metric tons of rice in 1956, an increase of 8 percent over 1955, and 47 percent more than in 1954. More than three-fourths of 1956 imports were in the form of brown rice. Increased imports from the United States were entirely of broken rice.

RICE: Federal Republic of Germany, imports, by quantity and value, 1956

Country of origin	Unpolished (semi-milled)		Other <u>1/</u>		Total	
	Metric : tons	1,000 : dollars	Metric : tons	1,000 : dollars	Metric : tons	1,000 : dollars
Argentina.....	4,421	491	565	49	4,986	540
Belgium.....	0	0	539	46	539	46
Burma.....	5,129	428	7,970	692	13,099	1,120
Egypt.....	18,796	2,126	0	0	18,796	2,126
Iran.....	0	0	93	6	93	6
Italy.....	37,221	4,413	728	86	37,949	4,499
Netherlands.....	0	0	2/ 7,378	3/ 1,317	7,378	1,317
Spain.....	8,888	987	0	0	8,888	987
Surinam.....	5,814	836	208	15	6,022	851
Thailand.....	10,457	1,567	0	0	10,457	1,567
United States.....	0	0	8,590	623	8,590	623
Others.....	313	37	30	6	343	43
Total.....	91,039	10,885	26,101	2,840	117,140	13,725

1/ Mostly broken rice, polished and unpolished. 2/ Includes 6,211 tons of "polished" rice. 3/ Includes \$1,203,000 for "polished" rice.

Compiled from official sources.

Consumption of rice as food increased from 76,000 metric tons in 1954-55 (July-June) to approximately 87,000 tons in 1955-56, according to official figures. This gain was due to a slightly higher rate of per capita consumption and an increase in population. Per capita consumption is officially estimated at 3.5 pounds in 1955-56, compared with 3.3 pounds in 1954-55.

The largest increase in rice imports according to type was in broken rice. Imports of broken rice were 19,785 metric tons in 1956, compared with 12,540 tons in 1955. Of the 8,590 tons imported from the United States, about 75 percent was re-exported after being processed by industries producing starch or related products.

West German consumers seem to prefer round, short-grain types of rice because of the cheaper price.

AUSTRALIAN WOOL PRICES HIGHER

Australian wool prices advanced during the week ending April 4, 1957, regaining early March levels. Sales for the week were held at Sydney, Adelaide, and Albury, with some 130,000 bales offered at auction.

Strong competition at Australian auctions among buyers representing Japan, Continental Europe (including Eastern Europe), and the United Kingdom has resulted in appreciable price advances during a season in which there has been substantial increases in the supply of wool available.

WOOL, RAW: Australia, average costs per pound on auction floors, clean basis, by quality classification, weeks ended March 23, 1956, March 29, 1957, and April 5, 1957

Type and grade	Week ended			
	3-23-56	3-29-57	4-5-57	
	U.S. Dollars per Pound			
Combing wools:				
70's Good	1.31	1.65	1.67	
Average	1.23	1.59	1.60	
64's Good	1.14	1.52	1.55	
Average	1.12	1.48	1.51	
60's Good	1.01	1.41	1.45	
Average	.99	1.36	1.40	
58's Good	.91	1.29	1.33	
Average	.89	1.22	1.26	
56's Good	.85	1.16	1.19	
Average	.83	1.12	1.15	
50's Good	.76	1.02	1.05	
Average	.76	.99	1.02	
Carding wools:				
Merino	.80	.90	.91	
Comeback	.75	.82	.82	
Fine Crossbred	.70	.78	.78	
Medium Crossbred	.66	.76	.77	

Source: Wool Statistical Service, Australian Wool Bureau.

URUGUAY TO EXPORT MEAT TO
U.S.S.R. AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA

The Soviet Union has recently contracted for purchases of 4,000 metric tons of beef and 4,000 metric tons of mutton in Uruguay, according to trade sources. The purchases will be paid for in pounds sterling. Czechoslovakia is also expected to buy 3,000 to 5,000 metric tons of meat in Uruguay this year.

EXPORTS OF SCOTTISH
WOOLEN GOODS UP

The Scottish woolen fabric industry reports an overall increase of about 14 percent in exports for the year 1956. Although exports to the United States were down somewhat due to confusion over the quota system, exports to Canada were up substantially.

Domestic sales were off about 7 percent in 1956, but this was more than offset by the increase in exports. The loss in home sales was chiefly attributed to the growing acceptance of synthetic fibers.

Prices have increased about 14 cents per yard owing to higher wool prices. The Scottish woolen industry, however, uses a substantial quantity of home-produced wools; its principal sources of raw material are Australia and New Zealand.

SWISS HOG NUMBERS STILL LARGE

Swiss hog numbers, which reached a new high in April 1956, with 1,159,000 head, continued high during the year and were estimated at 1,290,000 at the end of December 1956. This is the highest level ever recorded for that time of the year. With unusually large numbers of bred sows and young pigs reported to date, numbers during 1957 are not expected to decline. (See Foreign Crops and Markets, November 11, 1956.)

To support domestic hog prices, Switzerland has limited imports of slaughter hogs. As a result, the number of imported hogs slaughtered at reporting localities dropped from 10,224 in 1955 to 1,867 in 1956. Total hog slaughter rose about 10 percent in the comparable 1956 period.

Larger pork production, however, has not adversely affected United States lard exports to Switzerland, which rose from 293,000 pounds in 1955 to 386,000 pounds in 1956. During 1956, the United States exported about 30 million pounds of inedible tallow and greases to Switzerland.

ARGENTINE MEAT EXPORTS RISE

Exports of Argentine chilled carcass beef and canned meat rose sharply during the first quarter of 1957. Chilled beef exports were 63 percent above the same period last year, and canned meat exports increased 92 percent. Frozen carcass meat exports declined due to decreased demand on the United Kingdom market.

MEAT: Argentina, exports, first quarter 1955-57

Item	1955		1956		1957	
	Mil.lbs.	Percent	Mil.lbs.	Percent	Mil.lbs.	Percent
		1/		1/		1/
Frozen carcass beef...	59.8	-19	46.5	-22	42.8	-8
Chilled carcass beef...	35.3	341	79.8	126	130.6	63
Frozen carcass mutton:	2.2	44	0.9	-60	0.3	-77
Frozen carcass lamb...	19.6	41	26.8	44	24.7	-8
Canned meat.....	38.9	-19	37.3	-4	71.8	92

1/ Percent change from previous year.

BRAZILIAN MEAT CONSUMPTION DROPS

Apparent consumption of meat in Brazil has dropped 4 percent in the last 3 years. The normal increase in population over this period has caused the per capita consumption to drop 9 percent. The greatest decrease was in beef, which accounts for about 80 percent of Brazilian meat consumption. Although cattle numbers have increased from about 61 to 66 million during the last 3 years, slaughter and production have not kept pace with the rapid population growth. In view of the large cattle numbers and the rising standard of living, a continued increase in per capita meat consumption may be expected.

MEAT: Apparent consumption, Brazil 1954-55

Type	1954		1955		1956	
	Total	Per capita	Total	Per capita	Total	Per capita
	Mil.lb.	lb.	Mil.lb.	lb.	Mil.lb.	lb.
Beef.....	2,652	46.4	2,569	43.9	2,519	42.1
Pork.....	480	8.4	491	8.4	493	8.2
Mutton & goat.....	121	2.1	127	2.1	117	2.0
All meat.....	3,253	56.9	3,187	54.4	3,129	52.3

U. K. TO INCREASE MEAT PRODUCTION

Meat production in the United Kingdom is expected to rise during 1957. Because of the United Kingdom's unfavorable balance of payments' situation, the government has encouraged producers to increase domestic meat production. Increased meat production, it is believed, will not only save scarce foreign exchange but also help to build up and maintain soil fertility.

To encourage domestic production, the guaranteed average price for fat cattle has been raised from \$18.87 in the 1956-57 crop year to \$19.50 per 100 pounds, live weight, for the 1957-58 crop year. The guaranteed price for sheep and lambs has been raised from \$44.33 to \$46.08 per 100 pounds carcass weight for the same period. The guaranteed price for hogs has not been raised, as a large quantity of pork was produced during 1956.

Guaranteed prices on oats and barley, important domestic feed grains, have also been raised to encourage meat production.

In March 1957, the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food announced a differential subsidy on fat cattle to encourage the marketing of better quality beef. Higher guaranteed prices will be provided for younger or lighter-weight well-finished steers and heifers, which are now in greatest demand. The rate for such cattle will be 5s. (.70 cents) more per live cwt. (112 pounds) than the rate for other cattle. It is estimated that about 60 percent of the eligible cattle will qualify for the higher rate of payment.

Through June 1957, steers weighing less than 1,288 pounds live, and heifers weighing less than 1,063 pounds will be eligible for certification for payment under the support program. From July 1, 1957 to March 30, 1958, the maximum weights for cattle eligible for the higher support payments decline to 1,132 pounds for steers and 1,008 for heifers. The weight ranges do not apply to baby beef, which may attain heavier weights and still be young enough to qualify for the larger payments.

The support program for 1957-58 provides a new quality premium for top bacon carcasses. The premium rate for carcasses of 800 mm. or more in length is equivalent to \$2.10 per 100 pounds. The rate for carcasses measuring between 775 and 799 mm. is \$1.40.

U. S. EXPORTS OF MOHAIR
CONTINUE TO INCREASE

United States' exports of mohair increased from 6.1 million pounds in 1955 to approximately 11.8 million pounds in 1956. This increase in foreign trade is especially significant in view of the fact that as late as 1952 total United States exports of mohair were only about 24,000 pounds.

Principal importers of United States -- produced mohair in 1956, were the United Kingdom and the Netherlands. These two countries took over 85 percent of the United States exports. Present indications are that the United Kingdom, which imported 7.8 million pounds from the United States in 1956, will take even more in 1957. In the first 2 months of 1957, United States exports of mohair to the United Kingdom were about 1.2 million pounds higher than they were for the same period in 1956.

Increased foreign demand for mohair produced in the United States has been the principal reason for the increase in exports. Production of mohair in the United States in 1956 totaled 182 million pounds and was the largest clip in 10 years. However, domestic prices were up, averaging about 2.2 cents per pound more than in 1955, and 12 cents higher than for 1954.

MOHAIR: U.S. exports, actual weight, by country of destination,
annual 1951-56 1/

Country	: 1951	: 1952	: 1953	: 1954	: 1955	: 1956
	: 1,000	: 1,000	: 1,000	: 1,000	: 1,000	: 1,000
	: pounds	: pounds	: pounds	: pounds	: pounds	: pounds
United Kingdom.....	: 14	: 6	: 170	: 1,017	: 3,866	: 7,789
Netherlands.....	: --	: --	: 268	: 1,053	: 1,765	: 2,482
Belgium.....	: --	: --	: 257	: 254	: 227	: 946
Canada.....	: 30	: 17	: 103	: 142	: 107	: 97
Others.....	: 1	: 1	: 85	: 69	: 87	: 2/ 521
Total.....	: 45	: 24	: 883	: 2,535	: 6,052	: 11,835

1/ Includes alpaca and other wool such as specialty hair.

2/ Includes shipments to West Germany, Japan, Italy, Switzerland, and France.

NEW ZEALAND WOOL
PRICES HIGHER

Crossbred wools met an excellent demand at the Wellington, New Zealand auction held on April 8, when a total of 30,000 bales were scheduled for sale. Bidding was highly competitive, with British and Continental buyers dominating.

Official price ranges at the Wellington sale, with comparative prices received last year, were:

Type	3-28-56	4-8-57
	<u>U.S. cents per lb.</u>	<u>U.S. cents per lb.</u>
Fine Crossbred 50s.....	61-65	79-81
Medium Crossbred 48/50s.....	61.63	76-78
Crossbred 46/50s.....	61.63	74-77
Coarse Crossbred 46/48s.....	62-63	74-76

U. S. JULY-APRIL WHEAT AND
FLOUR EXPORTS ESTIMATED AT
425 TO 430 MILLION BUSHELS

United States wheat and flour exports during the first 10 months of 1956-57 are estimated at 425 to 430 million bushels, compared with 247 million during the same period a year earlier. This estimate is based on actual exports as reported by the Bureau of the Census during July-February, on inspections for March, and on an estimated total for April based on inspections during the first 3 weeks of that month.

Actual exports during the first 8 months of this year amounted to 342 million bushels, slightly below the quantity exported during the full 12 months of 1955-56.

Exports by destinations are not yet available for March. However, census figures given below for July-February exports, and inspections for March, show the quantities in millions of bushels taken by principal countries during that 9-month period, with figures for the same period a year ago in parentheses: Japan, 35.3 (33.1); India, 33.2 (2.7); France, 31.1 (none); United Kingdom, 30.7 (12.2); West Germany, 29.7 (10.4); Netherlands, 17.9 (15.5); Pakistan, 17.7 (4.5); Belgium-Luxembourg, 17.4 (3.5); and Greece, 14.4 (9.7).

(Table follows)

WHEAT AND FLOUR: U.S. exports by country of destination,
July-February 1955-56 and July-February 1956-57

Destination	July-February 1955-56			July-February 1956-57		
	Wheat	Flour 1/	Total	Wheat	Flour 1/	Total
	(Thousands of bushels, grain equivalent)					
Western Hemisphere:						
Canada	1,573	199	1,772	5	134	139
Mexico	2,368	13	2,381	60	8	68
Central America	511	2,675	3,186	892	2,637	3,529
Cuba	1,017	2,296	3,313	2,062	2,621	4,683
British West Indies	-	1,603	1,603	1	2,356	2,357
Colombia	1,345	63	1,408	2,278	39	2,317
Venezuela	67	2,849	2,916	151	4,258	4,409
Peru	3,219	149	3,368	2,139	175	2,314
Bolivia	1,311	706	2,017	2,454	838	3,292
Chile	1,388	4	1,392	4,883	19	4,902
Brazil	8,969	218	9,187	4,556	1	4,557
Paraguay	-	-	-	706	297	1,003
Others	502	2,395	2,897	382	2,283	2,665
Total	22,270	13,170	35,440	20,569	15,666	36,235
Europe:						
Norway	1,097	995	2,092	1,389	570	1,959
Denmark	-	7	7	3,137	25	3,162
United Kingdom	8,457	761	9,218	27,262	873	28,135
Netherlands	11,683	2,536	14,219	15,593	2,310	17,903
Belgium-Luxembourg	2,579	13	2,592	16,703	19	16,722
France	-	-	-	29,303	1	29,304
West Germany	9,483	1	9,484	28,300	83	28,383
Austria	30	-	30	1,480	3	1,483
Switzerland	59	-	59	6,024	6	6,030
Finland	251	-	251	2,813	-	2,813
Portugal	1,325	58	1,383	4,635	78	4,713
Italy	2,925	946	3,871	5,655	293	5,948
Yugoslavia	18,314	6	18,320	11,313	12	11,325
Greece	8,436	-	8,436	11,217	21	11,238
Others	568	31	599	1,963	49	2,012
Total	65,207	5,354	70,561	166,787	4,343	171,130
Asia:						
Turkey	400	-	400	9,200	-	9,200
Israel	4,054	6	4,060	7,359	479	7,838
Saudi Arabia	285	1,283	1,568	959	2,607	3,566
India	1,656	37	1,693	27,027	20	27,047
Pakistan	1,809	-	1,809	16,658	1	16,659
Indochina	-	1,228	1,228	-	2,336	2,336
Indonesia	-	391	391	-	3,731	3,731
Philippines	-	3,075	3,075	-	4,328	4,328
Korea	2,243	-	2,243	7,213	416	7,629
Taiwan	4,013	5	4,018	4,156	-	4,156
Japan	30,366	773	31,139	31,299	1,360	32,659
Others	134	2,328	2,462	1,862	2,278	4,140
Total	44,960	9,126	54,086	105,733	17,556	123,289
Africa:						
Egypt	5,306	377	5,683	1,071	358	1,429
Tunisia	-	-	-	2,609	2	2,611
Canary Islands	1,849	-	1,849	165	-	165
French West Africa	-	7	7	1,924	6	1,930
British West Africa	-	1,813	1,813	-	2,203	2,203
Other Africa	1,321	1,311	2,632	1,184	1,226	2,410
Total	8,476	3,508	11,984	6,953	3,795	10,748
Miscellaneous	-	356	356	3	167	170
World total	140,913	31,514	172,427	300,045	41,527	341,572

1/ Wholly of United States wheat.

PERU TO IMPORT COTTONSEED OIL
FREE OF DUTY

Peruvian fish packers have been authorized to import refined cottonseed oil for use on canned fish without paying the import duty (\$.0048 per gross pound) and additional surcharges. The authorization was effected on February 19, 1957, by a supreme decree of the Government of Peru, for a period of 6 months. A shortage of domestic cottonseed oil prompted the decree. Consular fees, the 1 percent Pro-Unemployed Tax, and the 2 percent Navy Tax must still be paid. The cottonseed oil imports must be authorized by local authorities, and importers are required to put up bond for the amount of duties and other charges waived.

ECUADOR LIMITS
OILSEED IMPORTS

The 7 factories in Ecuador producing edible vegetable fats and oils are allowed to import only 50 percent of their total requirements, according to a presidential decree effective April 6, 1957. The Ministry of Economy estimates that 67 percent of the factories requirements have been imported in the past. The Ministry is empowered to authorize importation of prepared edible oils, presumably for competition with locally manufactured products, if the factories fail to comply with the new decree.

The factories previously enjoyed industrial protection which allowed importation of machinery, equipment, and raw materials free of duty. This protection was withdrawn in September 1956.

EASTERN VENEZUELAN CACAO MAY
NOW BE SHIPPED FROM LA GUAIRA

A decision by the Venezuelan Ministry of Agriculture permitting cacao beans produced in the Eastern part of the country to be shipped from the port of LaGuaira was reported in mid-April by the Caracas press.

Venezuela has had a ban against the movement of cacao beans from Sucre and the Delta Amacuro to the ports of La Guaira and Pueblo Cabello. The Camara Agricola has maintained that because of this prohibition Eastern producers have been forced to sell their beans at a maximum of 21.8 cents per pound. Local sources have stated that as there is no difference in quality between beans of Barlovento and those of Eastern Venezuela the ban was unjustified and unfair. Cacao from Barlovento has been selling at 30.5 cents per pound.

The Eastern States which may now ship through LaGuaira are Anzoategui, Sucre, Monagas, and Bolivar, as well as the Delta Amacuro and Amazon Territories.

SPANISH AGAIN REDUCE MINIMUM EXPORT PRICES FOR ALMONDS AND FILBERTS

On March 28, 1957, the Spanish Ministry of Commerce issued new minimum export prices for almonds and filberts, superseding those established on February 22. Following the trend of the earlier change, export prices were again sharply reduced. Spanish exporters had been experiencing sharp competition from Italian and other Mediterranean almonds.

Type	Minimum export prices	
	February 22, 1957	March 28, 1957
	U.S. cents per lb.	U.S. cents per lb.
Shelled Almonds:		
Mallorca propietario, with		
broken grains.....	59.0	46.3
Mallorca propietario, with-		
out broken grains.....	60.3	47.2
Valencia unselected.....	61.2	47.6
Mallorca selected.....	64.9	50.8
Valencia selected.....	65.3	51.3
Planeta.....	68.0	53.5
Largueta.....	68.9	54.4
Jordana.....	68.9	54.4
Marcona.....	69.4	54.9
Bitter almonds.....	44.5	35.4
Broken grains.....	53.5	38.6
Unshelled almonds:		
Mollar Tarragona.....	24.9	13.6
Mollar Cartagena.....	24.0	12.7
Fita.....	19.5	8.2
Shelled Filberts:		
Grano.....	40.8	38.6
Grano Primera Pequena.....	38.6	36.3
Broken grains.....	33.6	31.3
Unshelled Filberts:		
Unshelled filberts.....	18.6	16.8

Competitiveness of Spanish almonds will be further increased by the April 12 unification of the Spanish exchange rate at 42 pesetas per dollar. The new exchange rate represents a considerable improvement over the 33.95 average rate previously permitted for almond exports, and it offers less incentive for illegal exports.

VENEZUELA SELF SUFFICIENT IN POTATOES

Imports of table stock potatoes by Venezuela were only 124,000 bags for the first 11 months of 1956, compared with a 1951-55 average of 705,500 bags. This year Venezuelan production is estimated at 2,204,000 bags, with yearly requirements of 1,763,000 bags. Before the total crop equalled national requirements, people welcomed imported potatoes during December and January because of the poor quality of their own stored supplies.

Seed potato requirements should be larger as Venezuela becomes self sufficient. Venezuelan seed potato imports have averaged 162,000 bags annually for the last 6 years, but the United States has supplied only about 3,000 bags of this annual average.

U. S. COTTON IMPORTS DOWN
SHARPLY IN FEBRUARY

United States imports of cotton (for consumption) in February 1957 amounted to 7,000 bales (500 pounds gross), down sharply from imports of 13,000 bales in January, and less than half the 18,000 bales imported in February a year ago. Imports from Egypt accounted for most of the volume in the current month, amounting to 5,400 bales. Imports from other sources were negligible.

Cotton imports during August-February 1956-57 were 60,000 bales, down 45 percent from imports of 110,000 bales in August-February 1955-56. Declines were registered for all countries except Mexico. Quantities imported in August-February 1956-57, with comparable 1955-56 figures in parentheses, were: Egypt 24,000 bales (47,000); Mexico 21,000 (21,000); Peru 6,000 (19,000); and Pakistan 5,000 (17,000).

U. S. SHARE OF FOREIGN COTTON
MARKETS CONTINUES TO INCREASE

The United States share of cotton imports into major cotton-importing countries continued to increase in the second quarter of the August-July 1956-57 marketing season. Imports by all 12 of the countries listed in the table on page 20 show the return of United States cotton to its traditional position as an important growth in these markets, following the unusually low levels a year ago.

Reporting periods vary according to availability of data. Percentages showing the United States share of cotton imports in the most recent periods, with last year's comparable figures in parentheses, were: Spain 95 percent (73); Canada 92 (34); Italy 59 (23); United Kingdom 57 (18); West Germany 45 (7); Switzerland 45 (8); Japan 41 (26); Netherlands 39 (2); Belgium 39 (7); India 32 (2); France 27 (11); and Hong Kong 20 (1).

COTTON: Share of United States and other supplying countries in specified import markets, portions of 1955-56 and 1956-57 marketing years as shown

(Bales of 500 pounds gross)

Importing country	Reporting period	Supplying countries <u>1/</u>	Quantity imported		Supplying countries' share of market	
			1955-56: period	1956-57: period	1955-56: period	1956-57: period
			1,000 bales		Percent	
Belgium	Aug-Nov.	United States	9	61	7	39
		Belgian Congo	24	28	20	18
		Mexico	29	27	24	17
		Total	123	155		
France	Aug-Feb.	United States	74	223	11	27
		French Colonies	130	116	19	14
		Greece	34	95	5	11
		Total	677	835		
Germany, West ...	Aug-Jan.	United States	45	340	7	45
		Mexico	214	148	35	20
		Peru	47	49	8	6
		Total	620	755		
Italy	Aug-Nov.	United States	38	164	23	59
		Turkey	9	20	6	7
		Total	163	277		
Netherlands	Aug-Dec.	United States	3	47	2	39
		Mexico	66	32	51	27
		Total	129	119		
Spain	Aug-Mar.	United States	85	162	73	95
		Brazil	23	8	20	5
		Total	117	170		
Switzerland	Aug-Feb.	United States	9	80	8	45
		Mexico	31	31	26	17
		Total	119	178		
United Kingdom...	Aug-Jan.	United States <u>2/</u>	122	495	18	57
		Sudan	115	113	17	13
		Total	684	864		
Canada	Aug-Dec.	United States	52	165	34	92
		Mexico	90	14	58	8
		Total	155	180		
Hong Kong	Aug-Jan.	United States	1	21	1	20
		Br. E. Africa	25	29	25	27
		Brazil	13	23	13	21
		Total	102	107		
India	Aug-Nov.	United States	2	41	2	32
		Br. E. Africa	45	49	35	39
		Sudan	35	23	28	18
		Total	127	127		
Japan	Aug-Feb.	United States	300	739	26	41
		Mexico	268	509	23	28
		Total	1,166	1,799		

1/ Totals include imports from sources not listed. 2/ Includes some Mexican cotton transshipped thru United States ports.

U. S. EXPORTS OF COTTON LINTERS DECLINE IN FEBRUARY

United States exports of cotton linters, mostly chemical qualities, amounted to 47,000 bales (500 pounds gross) in February 1957, down 22 percent from exports of 60,000 bales in January, and also considerably below exports of 65,000 bales in February 1956. Linters exports during the 7-month period, August-February 1956-57, amounted to 268,000 bales, 4 percent less than exports of 278,000 bales in the comparable period of 1955-56.

Principal destinations of the linters exports in August-February 1956-57, with comparable 1955-56 figures in parentheses, were: West Germany 90,000 bales (97,000); United Kingdom 44,000 (59,000); Netherlands 44,000 (24,000); Japan 36,000 (28,000); Canada 22,000 (16,000); and France 18,000 (45,000).

U. S. IMPORTS OF COTTON LINTERS DIP SLIGHTLY

United States imports of cotton linters, mostly felting qualities, amounted to 13,000 bales (500 pounds gross) in February 1957, slightly below January imports of 15,000 bales, and also below the 17,000 bales imported in February 1956. Linters imports during the 7-month period, August-February 1956-57, amounted to 100,000 bales, 22 percent less than imports of 128,000 bales in the same months a year ago.

Principal sources of the linters imported during August-February 1956-57, with comparable 1955-56 figures in parentheses, were: Mexico 72,000 bales (89,000); U.S.S.R. 21,000 (24,000); Brazil 2,000 (4,000); and Belgium 1,500 (2,000).

CANADA IMPORTS MORE U. S. COTTON

Canada's imports of United States cotton increased sharply during the first 5 months, August-December, of the 1956-57 season, amounting to 165,000 bales (500 pounds gross) in contrast with only 52,000 bales a year ago. Cotton imports from all sources were 180,000 bales in the current period -- the largest since 1950 -- and 16 percent higher than imports of 155,000 bales in August-December 1955. Imports from Mexico were 14,000 bales in the current period, compared with 90,000 a year ago. Imports from other sources were small.

Cotton consumption in Canada also is at a high level this year, amounting to 261,000 bales in the first 8 months, August-March, of the current season. This was 3 percent less than the consumption of 269,000 bales in August-March 1955-56, but considerably higher than other recent years.

All Canadian mills have been in full operation with the exception of one mill which was closed from December until February as a result of labor difficulties. Consumption of United States cotton by mills is running about 99 percent of total consumption in the last few months, and is expected to average about 90 percent for the entire season.

Demand for cotton textiles remains strong, reflecting the continued high Canadian economic level. Revised estimates by the Canadian Cotton Institute indicate that the Canadian market absorbed 529 million yards of cotton goods in calendar 1956, compared with 513 million in 1955.

Imports of cotton textiles have continued an upward trend and in 1956 were the highest in many years. The Institute estimates that imported textiles represented 49 percent of total textile consumption in 1956, as against 47 percent in 1955. In October-December 1956, the rate increased to 51 percent. Textile imports from the United States, the United Kingdom, Japan, and India were increased in 1956.

Economic conditions in Canadian cotton mills are generally favorable, even though they may have lost ground slightly in the percentage of textiles supplied for the domestic market. The number of operative spindles remains just under 1 million. Several mills have modernized their equipment and operating methods during recent years, and the efficiency per spindle has been gradually improving. According to a recent announcement, a new cotton mill will be built at Valleyfield, Quebec; it is expected to be in operation late in 1958.

Cotton stocks in Canada on August 1, 1956, were estimated at 40,000 bales, down 20 percent from stocks of 50,000 bales held a year earlier. Midseason stocks on December 31, 1956, were estimated at 57,000 bales. By early March, mills reportedly had bought most of their requirements through about July.

PAKISTAN EXPORTS LESS COTTON THAN LAST YEAR

Cotton exports from Pakistan during August-February 1956-57 were 345,000 bales (500 pounds gross), 20 percent less than exports of 433,000 bales in the comparable period a year ago. Most of the decrease was in exports to China, the United Kingdom, Italy, and West Germany--partially offset by increased quantities to Japan and France. Reduced stocks because of heavy exports last year, and a smaller 1956-57 crop were principal factors causing the export decline. Pakistan's cotton exports are mostly of American upland type with medium to short staple lengths.

COTTON: Pakistan, exports by country of destination,
annual 1947, 1953-55, August-February 1955-56 and 1956-57

(Bales of 500 pounds gross)

Country of destination	Year beginning August 1				August-February	
	1947 <u>1/</u>	1953	1954	1955	1955-56	1956-57
	- - - - 1,000 bales - - - -					
United States.....	34	12	12	22	18	10
Austria.....	<u>2/</u>	3	3	4	3	<u>2/</u>
Belgium.....	109	15	16	15	9	<u>2/</u>
France.....	54	72	47	82	47	64
Germany, West.....	0	32	21	34	23	6
Italy.....	72	62	32	31	23	1
Netherlands.....	21	3	3	7	5	2
Spain.....	44	9	<u>2/</u>	0	0	0
Sweden.....	12	10	7	4	3	0
United Kingdom.....	74	88	63	54	34	8
U.S.S.R.....	114	0	0	0	0	5
China.....	73	153	101	127	72	33
French India.....	0	19	3	0	0	0
Hong Kong.....	44	97	71	51	25	19
India.....	114	0	0	0	0	0
Japan.....	44	262	226	266	149	194
Union of So. Africa.....	0	2	2	3	2	<u>2/</u>
Australia.....	27	35	23	20	18	1
Other countries.....	14	<u>3/</u> 19	4	3	2	2
Total.....	850	893	634	723	433	345

1/ August 15 to July 31, partition from India effective August 14, 1947.

2/ Less than 500 bales. 3/ Includes Syria and Bulgaria, 5 each.

Source: Government of Pakistan--Ministry of Commerce and Education;
agricultural attaches and other United States representatives abroad.

Pakistan's cotton acreage for 1956-57 is estimated at 3,384,000 acres, 4 percent less than the 1955-56 area of 3,540,000 acres. Cotton production for 1956-57 is expected to approximate 1,350,000 bales, 5 percent below last year's crop of 1,420,000 bales. Weather has now ceased to be a factor in the 1956-57 crop, as all cotton had been picked by mid-March, and ginning factories were in the last phase of operations. A probable breakdown of the 1956-57 crop by varieties as estimated by a private source is as follows:

<u>Cotton variety</u>	<u>Staple Length</u>	<u>Production</u> (Bales of 500 lb. gross)
4F	3/4 inch	204,000
LSS	3/4 - 7/8 inch	256,000
NT Sind	15/16 inch	433,000
289F	15/16 - 1-16 inches	323,000
Sind Desi)	Short staples	51,000
Punjab Desi)	below 3/4 inch	<u>83,000</u>
Total		1,350,000

Cotton consumption in Pakistan during 1955-56 amounted to 825,000 bales, an increase of 27 percent over 1954-55 consumption of 650,000 bales. A slight decline from last year's high rate is shown for the first 7 months of the 1956-57 season, estimated at 468,000 bales. This is 6 percent below consumption of 498,000 bales in August-February 1955-56.

Pakistan imported approximately 19,000 bales of United States cotton in 1955-56, resulting in the first use of this cotton by Pakistani mills. Imports during the 1956-57 season thus far have been negligible.

Cotton stocks on August 1, 1956, were estimated at 150,000 bales, down sharply from the 260,000 bales held a year earlier. Midseason stocks, on the basis of the foregoing figures for production, consumption, and exports, would amount to about 700,000 bales on March 1, 1957.

Cotton prices in Karachi reached a peak about mid-December 1956, and have gradually declined since. Spot quotations on April 12, 1957, (in equivalent U. S. cents per pound) were: 4F Punjab, SG, 22.59 cents; 289F NT Sind, SG, 24.12 cents; 289F Sind, RG, 21.82 cents; 289F Punjab, SG, 25.52 cents; Sind Desi 22.33 cents; and Punjab Desi 20.99 cents. These quotations do not include the export tax of 4.29 cents per pound on Desi cotton, and 6.16 cents on all others.

EGYPT'S 1956-57 COTTON CROP BELOW LAST YEAR

Egypt's 1956-57 cotton production of 1,492,000 bales (500 pounds gross), according to the fourth and final official estimate issued April 15, represented a 3 percent decline from the 1955-56 crop of 1,535,000 bales.

Production of the extra long staple varieties, Karnak and Menoufi, increased by 11 percent. Decreases of other varieties more than offset the increase in the extra long staples, as shown in the following table:

COTTON: Egypt, production by staple length and variety,
final official estimates, 1955-56 and 1956-57

Staple length and principal varieties	1955-56	1956-57	Percent
	1,000 bales	1/	change
Extra long staple, over 1-3/8":			
Karnak and Menoufi	550	611	+ 11
Medium long staple, over 1-1/4":			
Giza 30, 31, and 47	289	272	- 6
Long staple, over 1-1/8":			
Ashmouni	658	574	- 13
Subtotal	1,497	1,457	- 3
Scarto (unclassified cotton)	38	35	- 8
Total.....	1,535	1,492	- 3
1/ Bales of 500 pounds gross. Source: Government of Egypt.			

AUSTRALIA'S 1957 CANNED FRUIT OUTLOOK MORE OPTIMISTIC

Losses predicted for the 1957 Australian canned fruit pack are now regarded as less severe than first reported. The Australian Canned Fruits Board recently estimated canned apricot production at 800,000 equivalent standard 24/2½ size cases. Canned peaches were forecast at about 1,400,000 cases, and canned pears at around 2,400,000 cases. Though peach and apricot tree losses were heavy, due to excessive moisture during 1956, canners obtained greater than usual shares of the 1957 deciduous fruits crops at the expense of the dried and fresh fruit markets.

Output of fruit salad, fruit cocktail, and "two-fruits" (peaches and pears) is expected to exceed that of 1956. Processing of practically all available fruit has increased the salvage and use of damaged and sub-standard quality fruit by dicing it for fruit cocktail and "two-fruits."

SELECTED CANNED FRUITS: Australian production, annual 1954-57, average 1952-56

Fruit	Average	1954	1955	1956	Forecast
	1952-56				1957
	-- Thousand cases equiv. 24 No. 2½ cans --				
Apricots	884	1,271	846	790	800
Peaches	2,039	2,565	2,172	1,774	1,400
Pears.....	1,545	1,718	1,835	1,635	2,400

ARGENTINA EXPECTS RECORD PEANUT OUTPUT

Argentina will have a record crop of peanuts this year. Production is expected to reach an estimated 275,000 short tons, unshelled, and some in the trade think it could be as high as 330,000 tons. Plantings for the 1956-57 crop are believed unofficially to be near 620,000 acres, appreciably more than the official preliminary estimate of 579,000 acres. Official estimates placed the 1955-56 production at 238,000 tons from 505,700 planted acres and 455,400 harvested acres.

Adjustments in minimum prices guaranteed to farmers have given impetus to peanut plantings. Much land suitable for peanut production is being diverted from grazing and from other crops considered less profitable under present minimum price schedules, and acreage planted to peanuts has increased rapidly. In some localities, peanuts are considered to withstand drought better than sunflower seed.

If there is a 275,000-ton crop, some 220,000 tons may be available for crushing or export, allowing 10,000 tons for edible uses and 45,000 tons for seed and waste.

URUGUAY'S PEANUT PRODUCTION DOWN SHARPLY

The Ministry of Livestock and Agriculture of Uruguay has estimated 1956-57 peanut production at 4,900 short tons, somewhat over one-half the 1955-56 production of 8,900 tons. An estimated 18,500 acres were planted this year, compared to 19,750 acres the previous year. Expected yield per acre will be around 535 pounds, much lower than the 900 pounds per acre last year.

The government has set a mandatory price of 40 pesos per 100 kilos (220.46 pounds) for clean, dry, bagged, unshelled peanuts delivered at the factories. This price is for the producer and any expense incurred between producer and factories must be paid by the processor. For variations in quality, appropriate premiums will be paid for peanuts above prescribed standards, and deductions made for peanuts of sub-standard quality.

The last official price set on peanuts was 29 pesos per 100 kilos on April 1, 1950. Since that time the price has been permitted to seek its own level in the free market and has been around 35 pesos per 100 kilos. Generally the price paid for peanuts is 3 to 4 pesos per 100 kilos higher than that for sunflower seed.

U.S. OCTOBER-MARCH EDIBLE OIL EXPORTS
SET NEW RECORDS

Exports of cottonseed and soybean oils from the United States in March set a new monthly record of 188 million pounds, according to preliminary Census Bureau data. This was 20 million pounds more than the previous record of last December and one-third more than exports in March 1956. Total exports for the first half of the current marketing year were 805 million pounds, 41 percent larger than in October-March of last marketing year.

COTTONSEED OIL, SOYBEAN OIL, OILCAKES AND MEALS: U.S. preliminary estimates of exports, in March 1957 and October-March 1956-57 and actual exports, March 1956 and October-March 1955-56

Commodity	March		October-March	
	1956	1957	1955-56	1956-57
	:(Preliminary):		:(Preliminary):	
	- - Million pounds - -			
Cottonseed oil, refined.....	54.7:	3.7	: 144.6	: 36.7
Cottonseed oil, refined and further processed.....	21.4:	1.2	: 50.2	: 18.7
Cottonseed oil, crude.....	21.2:	56.0	: 143.4	: 221.5
Total cottonseed oil.....	97.3:	60.9	: 338.2	: 276.9
Soybean oil, refined.....	5.2:	5.7	: 38.1	: 30.4
Soybean oil, refined and further processed.....	28.2:	64.1	: 174.0	: 273.0
Soybean oil, crude.....	9.1	57.8	: 20.3	: 224.6
Total soybean oil.....	42.5	127.6	: 232.4	: 528.0
Total soybean and cottonseed oil.....	139.8	188.5	: 570.6	: 804.9
	- - - Thousand short tons - - -			
Cottonseed cake and meal.....	3.6	.1	: 140.6	: 25.6
Linseed cake and meal.....	5.0	.2	: 99.0	: 34.2
Soybean cake and meal.....	28.8	31.7	: 248.0	: 285.3
Total cake and meal.....	37.4	32.0	: 487.6	: 345.1
Compiled from official records of the Bureau of the Census.				

Compiled from official records of the Bureau of the Census.

March soybean oil exports of 128 million pounds exceeded by over one-fourth last December's high of 100 million pounds and were 3 times as large as in March 1956. Exports of cottonseed oil, which had been declining in recent months, rose in March to 61 million pounds, nearly two-thirds of the previous record in March 1956.

United States soybean exports in March are estimated at 3.5 million bushels on the basis of inspection reports. This brings estimated October-March exports to 52 million bushels, compared with 47 million a year ago.

As only about 300 tons of cottonseed and linseed meals were shipped abroad in March, total exports of cake and meal for the month were down to 32,000 tons. Six-month cake and meal exports of 345,000 tons were nearly 30 percent less than in October-March 1955-56.

YUGOSLAVIA'S OILSEED OUTPUT SHARPLY REDUCED IN 1956;
LOW PRODUCTION EXPECTED FOR 1957

Production of oilseeds in Yugoslavia was sharply reduced in 1956, and the present outlook is for continued low production in 1957. As a result of a smaller acreage harvested and lower yields, only 60 percent of the edible oil produced in 1956 was from domestic oilseeds, compared to 88 percent in 1955. Lard output was slightly higher in 1956 than in 1955.

EDIBLE FATS AND OILS: Yugoslavia, supply and distribution,
1955 and 1956

Item	Edible oils		Lard		Total supply <u>1/</u>	
	1955	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956
	- - - - 1,000 short tons - - - -					
Stocks January 1.....	3.3:	6.4:	16.5 :	19.8 :	19.8:	27.5
Production from:						
Domestic material <u>2/</u>	36.7:	18.4:	108.6 :	111.4 :	145.3:	129.8
Imported material <u>2/</u>	2.0:	11.8:	0 :	0 :	2.0:	11.8
Imports.....	3.5:	5.2:	39.4 :	44.6 :	3/ 53.5:	50.4
Total supply.....	45.5:	41.8:	164.5 :	175.8 :	220.6:	219.5
Direct consumption.....	38.5:	37.5:	141.4 :	143.3 :	189.4:	182.5
Industrial use.....	.5:	1.2:	1.7 :	1.7 :	2.2:	2.9
Exports.....	0 :	0 :	1.6 :	0 :	1.6:	0
Stocks December 31.....	6.5:	3.1:	19.8 :	30.8 :	27.4:	34.1
Total distribution....	45.5:	41.8:	164.5 :	175.8 :	220.6:	219.5

1/ Includes margarine. 2/ Unofficial estimates. 3/ Includes 3230 tons of margarine and 7363 tons of unspecified vegetable fats received from CARE.

Source: Yugoslavian Federal Food Administration, Belgrade.

Since farmers generally consider other crops more profitable than oilseeds, the 1957 oilseed acreage is expected to be much lower than the government goals here indicated:

<u>Crop</u>	<u>Planned area</u>	<u>Contracted area</u>	<u>Ratio of contracted to planned</u>
	<u>Acres</u>	<u>Acres</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Sunflower seed	267,140	126,590	47
Soybeans	29,010	11,360	39
Poppy seed	14,820	440	3
Castor beans	9,335	7,020	75

Castor bean plantings in 1957 may reach the planned goal; sunflower seed production may be about the same as in 1956 but below the desired level. For other crops, production will be far below the planned level. Rapeseed production is expected to be about 60 percent of that in 1956; about 12,300 acres have been planted, in contrast with 19,700 acres in 1956. Soybean output is expected to be above the 1956 level, as only about 7,400 acres were harvested in 1956.

Yugoslavia exported no oilseeds or oils in 1956, and most of the imports were oilseeds from Communist China and Bulgaria. About 42,000 tons of oilseeds, of which 25,100 tons were sunflower seed, were imported from these countries. The small quantities of oil imported, about 5,000 tons, were from various European countries.

On November 3, 1956, the Yugoslavian Government and the United States Government signed a Public Law 480 agreement for approximately 7,700 tons of edible oil, 9,900 tons of inedible tallow, and 35,200 tons of lard. In March, Yugoslavia requested that funds equivalent to 5,510 tons of lard be shifted to the equivalent in edible oil. Accordingly, on March 26, 1957, the U.S. Department of Agriculture issued revised purchase authorizations to this effect. Imports of edible oil under the agreement are now expected to be about 13,000 tons. Only soybean oil has been purchased under the program, due to the higher price of cottonseed oil.

CANADIAN GRAIN STOCKS AT ALLTIME HIGH

Total stocks of grains in Canada on March 31, 1957 were at an alltime high, according to official estimates of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Stocks of the four principal grains (wheat, oats, barley, and rye) totaled 37.1 million short tons, compared with 32.0 million a year ago and an average of 30.2 million for the past 10 years. The current total is about 10 percent above the previous record for the 4 grains, at the end of March 1943. The increase over that period is in wheat, which is 9 percent over the previous high of 762 million bushels. Stocks of barley and oats, though somewhat larger than last year's stocks, are less than in 1943.

The record wheat stocks of 831 million bushels in all positions on March 31 were 80 million bushels above the near-record stocks of a year earlier. About 459 million bushels, 55 percent of the current stocks, were held on farms, the bulk of it in the Prairie Provinces. This is a new high level for farm stocks, and exceeds the previous record of 1956 by 63 million bushels. Of the 372 million bushels in off-farm positions, 224 million were in country elevators and 148 million in other off farm positions.

Stocks of oats at the end of March 1957 were estimated at 366 million bushels, second only to the record total of 393 million in 1943. They were sharply above the 1956 total of 238 million and the average of 221 million for the past 10 years. Farm stocks, estimated at 315 million bushels, were at a near-record level and exceeded the 10-year average of 65 percent. Stocks on farms in the Prairie Provinces accounted for 261 million bushels of the total.

Barley stocks were reported at 227 million bushels, as of March, about the same as record stocks in 1954. This is 60 percent above the average for the past 10 years. Farm stocks were 167 million bushels, with 97 percent of the total in the Prairie Provinces.

Stocks of rye on March 31 were 17.5 million bushels, compared with 24.7 million a year ago and the 10-year average of 15.7 million. Of the total stocks, 11.3 million bushels, or 65 percent, were on farms.

GRAIN: Canadian stocks in all positions, March 31, 1957, with comparisons

Position	Wheat	Oats 1/	Barley	Rye
	<u>1,000 bushels</u>			
In Canada:				
On farms.....	459,000	315,000	167,000	11,300
Country elevators.....	223,884	37,183	21,597	3,152
Interior private and mill elevators.....	8,464	831	2,617	35
Interior terminal elevators.....	12,258	18	1,035	26
Vancouver - New Westminster elevators.....	12,828	210	1,636	-
Victoria elevator.....	305	2/	1	-
Prince Rupert elevator.....	-	-	116	-
Churchill elevator.....	4,801	-	-	-
Fort William-Port Arthur elevators.....	46,290	5,501	22,404	2,430
Storage afloat.....	3,094	415	971	-
In transit - rail.....	20,762	1,058	3,799	57
Eastern Elevators.....	36,481	5,320	4,867	504
Eastern mills (mill bins only).....	2,875	311	115	3
Western mills (mill bins only).....	165	61	22	6
Total in Canada 3/.....	831,207	365,908	226,180	17,513
Canadian grain in the United States.....	99	555	824	-
Total Canadian grain in North America.....	831,306	366,463	227,004	17,513
March 31, 1956 stocks: 4/.....				
In Canada.....	751,417	238,161	197,299	24,676
In the United States.....	117	-	-	-
Total in North America.....	751,534	238,161	197,299	24,676
1947-1956 average.....	453,723	220,632	142,086	15,652
1/ In bushels of 34 pounds. 2/ Less than 500 bushels. 3/ Subject to revision. 4/ Revised.				

From reports of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics and the Board of Grain Commissioners for Canada.

BULK OF AUSTRALIAN BARLEY MARKETED BY 3 STATE BOARDS

There is no Commonwealth authority in Australia for the marketing of barley as there is for wheat. There are 3 grower-controlled marketing organizations which sell, on behalf of the farmers, most of the barley produced in Australia. The Australian Barley Board markets the barley grown in Victoria and South Australia, the two main producing states. The Queensland and West Australia Boards handle the barley grown in those states.

The farmers served by these boards are not guaranteed a specific advance price for any variety or grade of barley. Each board sells barley in the domestic and export markets for the best prices it can get, and each season's gross receipts are pooled. The farmers each year receive payments in advance of the complete disposal of the year's crop by the board. Ultimately the total net proceeds which remain from the year's pool after payment of all of the costs such as for storage and transportation and the board's administrative expenses, are distributed to the farmers in proportion to the quantities and in accordance with the varieties and grades of the barley they delivered. The farmers are paid differential prices per bushel, which presumably are determined by the varying prices received by the board for the different varieties and grades of barley in the domestic and export markets.

In the 1955-56 marketing season the average domestic selling prices of the Australian Barley Board were, f.o.r. buyers' sidings: 2-row malting barley--13s. 0 d. (\$1.46) per bushel; 6-row malting, 2-row distilling, and 2-row pearling barley-- 12s. 0 d. (\$1.34) per bushel. The Board's average selling prices for feed barley, f.o.r. terminal points, were 10s. 0 d. (\$1.12) per bushel for 2-row and 9s. 6d. (\$1.06) per bushel for 6-row barley. Barley grown in New South Wales and Tasmania is sold by the farmers directly to private traders. These two states produce less than 10 percent of the barley grown in Australia.

Acreage and production of barley in Australia have been increasing in recent years. The increase in acreage has in part been at the expense of wheat. The 1935-39 average wheat acreage was 13,128,000; the 1945-49 average was 12,662,000; and the acreages of the last 3 years were--1954-55: 10,670,000; 1955-56: 10,170,000 and 1956-57: 7,790,000. The large decline in 1956-57 from 1955-56, however, was largely due to unfavorable weather conditions at planting time.

BARLEY: Australia, acreage and production, average
1935-39 and 1945-49, annual 1954-57

Year	Acreage	Production
	<u>Acres</u>	<u>Bushels</u>
1935-39 average.....	648,000	11,651,000
1945-49 average.....	868,000	16,854,000
1954-55.....	1,690,000	30,625,000
1955-56.....	1,900,000	42,310,000
1956-57.....	2,100,000	46,370,000

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